



Brendan and Jillian Bader

Co-owners of Modern Nest

At construction and design company Modern Nest, Brendan and Jillian Bader create beautiful homes for families across the Valley.

The couple met at Cocopah Middle School and started dating while attending Arizona State University, where Brendan studied construction management and Jillian studied early childhood education.

Determined to start a business, Brendan tapped into his passion for building by buying and refurbishing bank-owned properties in the Valley. Style lover Jillian, a kindergarten teacher at the time, frequently chipped in with design ideas.

After the couple lost their first daughter at birth in 2012, Jillian left her teaching career to spend more time helping Brendan with his growing business.

"During a very difficult time, we realized the joy that working together brought into our lives," Brendan says. "It quickly became evident how much better we were as a team. What blossomed was a sense of strength in our marriage and our business."

With time, Modern Nest (www.modernnesthomes.com) attracted a following for crafting timeless homes that balance comfort and quality construction with dramatic accents. But Brendan and Jillian noticed they often struggled to find the right home furnishings for their luxury spec homes and client remodeling projects.

"In an effort to style our homes with pieces we truly love, we decided to jump into the retail space," Jillian says. "Although developing a new business during a pandemic was terrifying, we felt in our hearts that this was what Scottsdale needed. Since opening our store, Market by Modern Nest, in Old Town in December, that's exactly what we've heard from our customers – it's the best compliment."

With a curated online retail store (www.marketbymodernnest.com) launching this year, the future looks bright for the Baders, who say their secret to success is patience. "Have grace for one another," Jillian says. "There will be tons of opportunities to disagree but showing respect and love in times of conflict comes first."